

Water Quality Protection Division



Mississippi Canyon 252 Oil Spill, Gulf of Mexico Region 6 Update

Subject: **Water Quality Division Update # 48**
 Mississippi Canyon 252 Oil Spill, Gulf of Mexico

Date: July 8, 2010

Reporting Period: July 7, 2010 1300 – July 8, 2010 1300

HIGHLIGHTS

- Regional weather patterns will continue to hamper response and sampling efforts over the next few days.
- R6 is reviewing the BP Liquid Waste and Materials Management Plan and will provide comments by July 12th.

CONTINUING ISSUES

Forecast

The nearshore oil forecast created by NOAA on 7/7/10 at 2100 CDT for 7/8/10 at 1200 CDT (Figure 1) indicates that the main portion of the oil slick will be east of Louisiana with a portion of the slick south of the Delta extending westward towards Barataria and Caillou Bay. Winds are forecast to be predominately out of the southeast at 5-10 knots. Shoreline contacts may occur on the barrier islands of Mississippi and the areas west of Mobile, AL. Models continue to show that with the southeast winds and westward currents, oil will move west of the delta and then northwards towards Barataria and Caillou Bay. No oil has been spotted during overflights west of Caillou Bay but any oil in this region will be carried rapidly westward by the coastal currents which could result in additional scattered tarball impacts to Texas.

- For maps concerning shoreline impact assessments, oil slick forecasts, and sampling locations go to <http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doctype/2931/53979/>

Monitoring and Assessment

- Continuing to coordinate with HQ, Region 4, and the REOC Environmental Unit regarding planning activities and daily review of monitoring data.

Drinking Water

- Drinking water intakes, public drinking water wells, and domestic wells have not been impacted by the oil sheen to date.
- EPA Region 6 continues to coordinate closely with the LDHH on all drinking water issues.

NPDES

- Participating in discussions with OW and R4 on options for modification of existing oil and gas general permits in the Gulf of Mexico.

Coastal Programs

Louisiana Large-Scale Coastal Barrier Plan:

- Work on the berm has been held up by a week due to inclement weather but may resume today or tomorrow. While the Chandeleur Island reach of the berm largely withstood the storm, some of the 1100 -1200 cubic yards of berm material placed before the storm moved, slumping and flattening on the western end. The National Guard plans to inspect the berm for oil as soon as weather permits. An additional area within Pass a Loutre will be requested for use as a borrow site.
- The Corps has requested additional information from the State prior to sending the full permit application package out for interagency review.

Corps Emergency Authorizations for Coastal Protection Features:

- No additional requests have been received. To date, 61 projects have been proposed and reviewed by Regions 4 & 6.

Corps Navigation Maintenance Dredging:

- Region 6, Region 4, OW and OGC will continue to coordinate on potential options.

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA)

- It is anticipated that there may be re-oiling of several shorelines in the vicinity of CWPPRA projects located in the Barataria and Terrebonne basins.